Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

EU2015.LV

SUBMISSION BY LATVIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

Riga, 6 March 2015

Subject: Intended Nationally Determined Contribution of the EU and its Member States

Introduction

1. The EU and its 28 Member States are fully committed to the UNFCCC negotiating process with a view to adopting a global legally binding agreement applicable to all Parties at the Paris Conference in December 2015 in line with the below 2°C objective.

Intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) of the EU and its Member States

2. The Lima Conference confirmed the Warsaw decision that all Parties ready to do so should communicate their INDC in the first quarter of 2015 in a manner that facilitates the clarity, transparency and understanding of the INDC.

3. The EU and its Member States wish to communicate the following INDC. The EU and its Member States are committed to a **binding target of an at least 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990**, to be fulfilled jointly, as set out in the conclusions by the European Council of October 2014. In line with the Lima Call for Climate Action, in particular its paragraph 14, the following quantifiable information is hereby submitted:

ANNEX

Intended Nationally Determined Contribution of the EU and its Member States	
Parties	EU and its Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom) acting jointly
Type	Absolute reduction from base year emissions.
Coverage	Economy-wide absolute reduction from base year emissions.
Scope	All greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol: Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) • Methane (CH_4) • Nitrous Oxide (N_2O) • Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) • Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) • Sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6) • Nitrogen trifluoride (NF3)
Base Year	1990.
Period	1 January 2021- 31 December 2030.
Reduction Level	At least 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
% of Emissions Covered	100%.
Agriculture, forestry and other land uses	Policy on how to include Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry into the 2030 greenhouse gas mitigation framework will be established as soon as technical conditions allow and in any case before 2020.
Net Contribution of International Market Based Mechanisms	No contribution from international credits.

Planning Process	Domestic legally-binding legislation already in place for the 2020 climate and energy package. The existing legislation for land use, land-use change and forestry (EU Decision 529/2013) is based on the existing accounting rules under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol. Legislative proposals to implement the 2030 climate and energy framework, both in the emissions trading sector and in the non-traded sector, to be submitted by the European Commission to the Council and European Parliament in 2015-2016 on the basis of the general political directions by the European Council, taking into account environmental integrity.
Fair and ambitious	The target represents a significant progression beyond its current undertaking of a 20% emission reduction commitment by 2020 compared to 1990 (which includes the use of offsets). It is in line with the EU objective, in the context of necessary reductions according to the IPCC by developed countries as a group, to reduce its emissions by 80-95% by 2050 compared to 1990. Furthermore, it is consistent with the need for at least halving global emissions by 2050 compared to 1990. The EU and its Member States have already reduced their emissions by around 19% on 1990 levels while GDP has grown by more than 44% over the same period. As a result, average per capita emissions across the EU and its Member States have fallen from 12 tonnes CO2-eq. in 1990 to 9 tonnes CO2-eq. in 2012 and are projected to fall to around 6 tonnes CO2-eq. in 2030. The emissions in the EU and its Member States peaked in 1979.
Key Assumptions	
Metric Applied	Global Warming Potential on a 100 year timescale in accordance with the IPCC's 4th Assessment Report.
Methodologies for Estimating Emissions	IPCC Guidelines 2006 and IPCC 2013 KP Supplement.
Approach to accounting for agriculture, forestry and other land uses	Comprehensive accounting framework, activity or land-based approach, for emissions and removals from land use, land-use change and forestry.
Coverage	
Sectors/Source Categories	• Energy o Fuel Combustion ▪ Energy industries ▪ Manufacturing industries and construction ▪ Transport ▪ Other sectors ▪ Other

	o Fugitive emissions from fuels ▪ Solid fuels ▪ Oil and natural gas and other emissions from energy production o CO_2 transport and storage • Industrial processes and product use o Mineral industry o Chemical industry o Metal industry o Non-energy products from fuels and solvent use o Electronic industry o Product uses as substitutes for ODS o Other product manufacture and use o Other • Agriculture o Enteric fermentation o Manure management o Rice cultivation o Agricultural soils o Prescribed burning of savannas o Field burning of agricultural residues o Liming o Urea application o Other carbon-containing fertilisers o Other • Waste o Solid waste disposal o Biological treatment of solid waste o Incineration and open burning of waste o Wastewater treatment and discharge o Other • Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry set out in Decision 529/2013/EU o Afforestation, reforestation o Deforestation o Forest management o Cropland management o Grazing land management o Or equivalent land-based accounting using UNFCCC reporting categories o Other categories/activities elected by the EU and its Member States as Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and its Doha Amendment.

Follow up

4. The EU and its Member States urge all other Parties, in particular major economies, to communicate their INDCs by the end of March 2015 in a manner that facilitates their clarity, transparency and understanding.

5. The EU and its Member States request the UNFCCC Secretariat to publish the INDC of the EU and its Member States on its website and to take it into account when preparing the synthesis report on the aggregate effect of the INDCs communicated by Parties.

6. The EU and its Member States look forward to discussing with other Parties the fairness and ambition of INDCs in the context of the below 2°C objective, their aggregate contribution to that objective and on ways to collectively increase ambition further.